

The Crimson White

Monday, February 22, 2010

Serving the University of Alabama since 1894

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SGA explains online discrepancy

Clerical error led to differences between SGA constitution

By Alan Blinder
Managing Editor

Government Association said Thursday that a clerical error occurred when someone changed the group's constitution

to reflect passage of an amendment that had not received the required level of support.

After The Crimson White reported a discrepancy between copies of the SGA constitution on several UA-hosted Web sites, the SGA conducted a review to ensure the published

document aligned with what the document should say.

In a version of its constitution the SGA posted on its Web site on Jan. 26, a petition signed by 20 percent of the student body was required to initiate impeachment proceedings against one of the organiza-

tion's officials.

However, two other copies of the document on other UA Web sites said that a petition only had to be signed by a total of six students to begin a preliminary investigation.

Chad Clark, the UA's director of student engagement and an

adviser to the SGA, described the SGA's "thorough" internal review process in an e-mail Thursday night.

Clark said he worked with UA administrators and SGA Attorney General Aubrey

See SGA, page 2

Street named Miss UA

By Patty Vaughan
Senior Staff Reporter



Ncole Jordan, Miss UA 2009, crowns Shellie Street as Miss UA 2010 while the UA Air Force ROTC Saber drill team salutes.

CW | Rachel Hill

Dozens packed the Bama Theatre Saturday night to watch the Miss University of Alabama 2010 competition.

Shellie Street, a junior from Mobile, was crowned the new Miss UA after a long process of facing five judges through a private interview, an on-stage question, and swimsuit, talent and evening wear competitions.

Street competed with 13 other girls: Martinique Gideon, Kristi Kelly, Brittany Powers, Hannah Muncher, Carly Evans, Brooke Johnson, Shawntae Johnson, Lisa Ledbetter, Ashley Brooke Wieronski, Melissa Lilly, Hilary Rubin-Holloway, Lori Kerr and Mallory Meissner.

As the 2010 winner, Street will receive a full-tuition scholarship for one year, two book scholarships and several other prizes. Last year,

the prize package totaled more than \$20,000.

In June, Street will also travel to Samford University in Birmingham to compete in the

Miss Alabama pageant. If she wins that competition, she will represent Alabama in the Miss

See MISS UA, page 7

Olympic games feature UA professor working the site

By Drew Taylor
Administrative Affairs Editor

Some professors will be taking the next week or so to teach class, grade papers and go to meetings around campus. Some may even turn on the TV after work to watch the Winter Olympics.

Ken Wright, however, has different plans.

Wright, a professor of sports management in the College of Human Environmental Sciences, has been in Vancouver, British Columbia, since the beginning of February to drug test athletes competing in the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Wright is working with the United States Anti-Doping Agency to administer various drug tests to athletes competing in the games. He has worked with the agency for 21 years.

"They are responsible for preserving integrity in the

"We are very pleased that Dr. Ken Wright was selected to participate in the Olympics. It is quite an honor for him and for the college of human environmental sciences."

—Milla Boschung

sport, and also holding athletes accountable to the rules of participation," Wright said.

Wright said he is primarily working with the men's speed skating teams, the first two weeks, Wright said during the first two weeks over 800 athletes were tested. Over the course of the games, Wright said he and the team would test 1,200-1,500 athletes.

Over the course of the last week, Wright's schedule has been filled throughout most of the working day, Wright said. From 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., Wright, along with a team of drug policy professionals, would head to the Richmond Olympic Oval to give blood screenings.

Throughout the rest of the afternoon, primarily from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., the team would test the skating teams, while the rest of the evenings were spent waiting for the results to come back from the lab.

Additionally, Wright and a few people would stay at the site as late as 11 p.m. to conduct random testing and oversee more results for any remaining athletes.

Although his time spent in Vancouver has been primarily giving drug tests, Wright said he has enjoyed himself with the little time he has to spend around the city.

See OLYMPIC, page 2

GYMNASTICS

Tide defeats Arizona in annual Pink Meet

By Jason Galloway
Sports Editor

Although the Alabama gymnastics team won by more than two points (197.25-195.1), Friday night's meet between the top-ranked Crimson Tide and No. 21 Arizona was hardly about gymnastics.

With almost the entire sold-out crowd donning pink, Alabama honored a breast cancer survivor with the introduction of each gymnast, a new twist to the Tide's sixth annual Power of Pink meet.

"My survivor actually gave me a little stone [with] a little ribbon in it," said senior Morgan Dennis. "I just started crying secretly. I tried not to show it, but I just thought that was really awesome how powerful this competition is."

Dennis became part of a three-way tie for the all-around title, scoring a 39.475 with Tide sophomores Ashley Priess and Geralen Stack-Eaton.

It was a second consecutive all-around title for Stack-Eaton, who notched a career-high 39.625 last week against Florida after only competing in three events the previous three weeks.

"[I'm] believing in myself and having confidence, and it's shown a lot," said Stack-Eaton, who scored a career-high 9.9 on bars Friday.

Alabama began the meet with identical scores of 49.325 on the vault and bars, while Arizona posted a 48.675 and a 49.225 on the bars and vault, respectively.

The lead only grew larger from there, as the Wildcats posted a less-than-spectacular 48.95 on floor exercise and fell twice on the beam. Alabama finished the meet with a 49.5 on floor, .025 away from a season-high, and Dennis posted a meet-high 9.95 on the final routine to finalize the blowout.

Senior Kassi Price was

See PINK, page 6



CW | Katie Bennett

Gyalen Stack-Eaton competes in the floor exercise during Friday's Pink Meet. UA athletes donated a \$100,000 to DCH Regional Medical Center before the meet.

Four years later, no closure in case of Homecoming shooting

By Anthony Johnson
Staff Writer



Conrad Hollis

Conrad Hollis' first Homecoming at the Capstone was memorable for all the wrong reasons.

On Oct. 28, 2006, after a night spent with friends at the Homecoming concert, Hollis was shot and killed in his driveway on Orange Street. He was dead at 21.

While leaving the concert, Hollis and his friends were

involved in a minor traffic accident. After both parties involved in the accident agreed that the damage done to the vehicles didn't warrant filing a police report, Hollis and

the driver of the other vehicle returned to their cars and went their separate ways.

What ensued after that point still remains a mystery to police and the Hollis family nearly four years later.

Investigators believe that the driver of a 1995-1999 Chevrolet Cavalier followed Hollis to his home after the accident and shot him after he stepped out of his vehicle.

Despite eyewitness reports, an enhanced vehicle descrip-

tion from the FBI forensic laboratory in Quantico, Va., and a \$20,000 reward, no arrests have been made in the case now known as the Homecoming homicide.

All his family and friends have are memories.

Friend not forgotten

Hollis grew up in New Hope, Miss., where he spent most

days fishing alongside his best friend, Justin Atkins, who grew up just four doors down from the Hollis family.

He said he spent Saturday afternoons during bow hunting season with Hollis, patiently waiting for a deer — or anything that resembled a deer — to trot out of the woods.

"Once bow season came around, Conrad and I would strap on the camouflage and face paint and go out and kneel down next to this dried-up

pond beside a tree and wait," Atkins said. "There was really no point in it, because we had seen maybe one deer there in our entire life, but Conrad was determined he was gonna kill one."

After many unsuccessful attempts, Hollis had a clear shot from 30 yards away on a wide-eyed, unsuspecting doe.

"I looked Conrad in the eye and I said, 'This is the moment

See SHOOTING, page 3

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NEWS in brief

CAMPUS | Fraternity, sorority hold bone marrow registry drive

Pi Kappa Phi and Chi Omega will hold a bone marrow registry drive Wednesday in honor of Blaise and Madeline Finnegan. Blaise, a UA freshman, and Madeline, a freshman at Huntsville High School, both have Fanconi anemia, requiring bone marrow transplants.

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, students can sign up to join the marrow registry. Donors must be over 16, weigh more than 110 pounds and show photo ID. The registry event will be held at the Pi Kappa Phi house and on Sorority Row.

CAMPUS | Body Appreciation Week kicks off with fashion show

The Fashion Rocks and So Does My Body Fashion Show will be Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Ferguson Student Center Theater. In celebration of Body Appreciation Week, this fashion show will feature all sizes to promote healthy body image and prevent eating disorders. For more information, contact Health Promotion and Wellness at 348-3878.

CAMPUS | Financial Aid Awareness month is February

Student Financial Aid will host an open house Feb. 26 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on the plaza between the Student Services Center and Ferguson Center. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held on the first floor of the Student Services Center.

To learn more about financial aid, visit financialaid.ua.edu.

CAMPUS | "Matsuri in the Mall" to be Saturday

Capstone International Center will be hosting "Matsuri in the Mall" Feb. 27 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will be located at the University Mall. "Matsuri in the Mall" offers an opportunity to experience Japanese culture. Through an exciting variety of cultural exhibits and performances, such as Japanese martial arts demonstrations, Sumo wrestling, Kimono display and many other activities, the group hopes to build friendships and increase an understanding of the country and people of Japan. A raffle drawing will be held at 4 p.m. during the closing ceremony to give away gift certificates to various local restaurants.

For more information, please contact Capstone International Center at 348-5256.

CAMPUS | Sign up for Higher Ed Day

Higher Education Day will be March 4 in Montgomery. All students are invited to attend this free trip to Montgomery to advocate for higher education funding. All students who attend will receive two free meals, free transportation and a free T-shirt. For more information, go to <http://www.sga.ua.edu/stars.cfm.outs>.

Send announcements and campus news to cwnews@sa.ua.edu

CAMPUS this week

MONDAY

- Liz Wuestefeld- "Little Things" BFA Exhibition: Sella-Granata Art Gallery, Woods Hall, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

TUESDAY

- Student Recital with Antonio da Silva, flute: Frank M. Moody Music Building, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more events, see calendars on Arts & Entertainment and Sports.

The Crimson White

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Event to bring black culture

By Carolyn Bero
Staff Writer

National Read-In Day will be held today at 6 p.m. in the Crossroads Lounge at the Ferguson Center to commemorate the literary works of black women throughout history.

The event is part of the month-long celebration of Black History Month. The focus this year has been "African-American Economic Development," and has featured a spectrum of events on campus throughout the month.

Historian Carter Woodson created Black History Month in 1926 to celebrate and recognize the achievements and heritage of the black community.

Many students agree that this is a special time for students to learn about the accomplishments of the black community.

"African-American Heritage Month is important on campus because it makes students more aware on the diversity present here, and gives African-Americans a way to celebrate their history and a sense of community on campus," said Nicholas Brown, a junior majoring in biology. "It makes you appreciate your own heritage as well, regardless of your ethnicity."

Landon Mueller, a freshman majoring in biology and chemistry, said it is important to analyze black literature to gain a better understanding of how black society stands in the face of history.

"I believe that this will be beneficial to the UA community because it teaches a life skill, as literacy is important in many different areas of life, and allows students to express themselves in a safe environment," Mueller said. "I hope to gain a greater insight into the literature of African-American women by attending."

More specifically, National Read-In Day will focus on the works of black women. One influential black writer, Sheryll Cashin, visited the University earlier this month to discuss one of her books, "The Agitator's Daughter" and "Post Racism in America," as part of the series. The night will also feature an open-mic event later in the evening, meaning those in attendance will be allowed to share their poetry with the group.

Marilyn Vaughn, a student involved in the National Council of Negro Women, described tonight's open-mic night as very cathartic for those who are aspiring writers and poets.

"I am really interested because I'm an aspiring writer, and I feel that anyone interested in the spoken word would benefit from attending this," said Vaughn, a freshman majoring in telecommunications and film.

This event will combine both the history of black women's literature with current student opinion, giving relevance to the event and providing an introspective and interactive approach to the theme of black voices in literature.

The event will be sponsored by various campus organizations, including the Women's Resource Center, the Crossroads Community Center, the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, the African-American Graduate Student Association, Pi Beta Phi, Sustained Dialogue, Riptide and the School of Social Work. Admission to the event is free and open to the public.

"I am really interested because I'm an aspiring writer, and I feel that anyone interested in the spoken word would benefit from attending this."

— Marilyn Vaughn

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OLYMPIC

Continued from page 1

"The hospitality here is wonderful," Wright said.

However, Wright said the highlight of his stay has been working with many great athletes who, Wright considers, "are wonderful."

Milla Boschung, dean of the college of human environmental sciences, said the department is appreciative of Wright's accomplishments and efforts as an educator.

"We are very pleased that Dr. Ken Wright was selected to participate in the Olympics," Boschung said. "It is quite an honor for him and for the college of human environmental sciences."

This year's Olympics are not Wright's first experience with the organization. Wright, in addition to this year's games, worked in Salt Lake City, Utah, during the 2002 Winter Olympics, as well as the summer Olympics in Beijing in 2008.

In a news release from July 2008, Glen Werner Rosebloom, U.S. Olympic committee coordinator, said the opportunity to work the various sites at the Olympic games is great, but involves everything out of its workers.

"It's a big thing to work for the Olympics, but big work," Rosebloom said. "It's not often glamorous, but it sure is fun to see your results."

Wright has taught at the University for over 22 years, focusing primarily on sports management, athletic training and drug testing policies.

"It's a great opportunity to get a global view of the world of athletics."

— Ken Wright, professor of sports management

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SGA

Continued from page 1

Coleman to compare the constitution to all amendments offered since 2002 to ensure they had received the necessary electoral support to pass an amendment. The constitution requires that two-thirds of voters participating in an election support an amendment for it to pass.

In his e-mail, Clark said that there was a vote on an amendment in 2004 to mandate a petition signed by 20 percent of the enrolled student body. While the amendment received majority support, it did not meet the standard set by the constitution to take effect.

"We assume that the amendment was added accidentally during a subsequent constitutional review based on the majority 'yes' vote," Clark said.

Clark added that the SGA had confirmed that all other amendments added to the constitution since 2002 "were added to the constitution correctly and accurately."

SHOOTING

Continued from page 1

of truth man, are you ready?"

With his hands trembling and his heart pounding, Hollis cocked back the bowstring and took dead aim.

And he missed.

"I think we were both just so overwhelmed that there was actually a deer standing in front of us that the pressure must've gotten to him."

"After that we both laid on the ground laughing hysterically because that's all we could do. It was the most exciting hunting trip of my life, and we didn't even kill anything."

He said Hollis was four years

older, but never treated Atkins poorly because of the gap.

"He never let me fall, he was always my guide, and I'll always appreciate the relationship that we had," Atkins said.

A truck, a decision and a new perspective

Sara Hollis, Hollis' mother, has one lasting impression of the tan Chevy pickup truck that he nurtured like a newborn child.

"It was definitely a teenager's truck," Hollis said. "It was a

stick shift for one, so I couldn't drive it, but it had flames down the side and on the interior, and Conrad always had his music blaring — trying to impress the girls."

She said they never did figure what he actually preferred to listen to. Depending on the girl, he would select a specific CD to play with the windows down, nodding to the beat while he drove.

Immediately after Sept. 11, 2001, Hollis joined the National Guard. He told his parents that he had been called to serve, and he did it with a proud smile on his face.

Eric Hollis, Hollis' father, was proud of his son, who at 19 entered the war in Iraq in 2004

as the youngest member of the 114th Field Artillery Unit.

"Growing up, Conrad was always the type of guy who defended everyone," Eric Hollis said. "He got suspended from school once for fighting someone that was picking on one of his friends."

While serving his tour of duty overseas, Hollis was given the task of pulling a headless member of his own unit out of a tank that had been hit by an improvised explosive device.

"That really got to Conrad," he said. "To be 19 years old and have to do something like that really changed his life. The guy who was killed was a young man, too."

The return home

Hollis returned home from Iraq in December 2005, a war veteran. Before he went off to war, he was uncertain of his future, but after returning home, he decided to go to college and study forensic sciences. He wanted to be in the FBI.

"When he got back from Iraq, he sat us both down and had a heart-to-heart with us and told us his plans," Sara said. "Conrad said, 'Mom, I know that you and Dad love me because you put boundaries around us for a reason, and now I can appreciate that, and I just want to say thank you. You have always raised us to

show respect for people, get an education and stand on our own two feet."

The final chapter

Every day that Sara Hollis walks into her son's room in New Hope, she sees his National Guard uniform still hanging on the wall. She sees his favorite red polo that he wore for every Alabama football game.

She picks up the album with a stitched cross on the cover and thumbs through pictures of the boy who never stopped smiling, knowing he's in a better place.

She remembers her son.

Democrats worried about Obama track record

By Liz Sidoti and Ron Fournier
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democratic governors said Sunday they worry about President Barack

Obama's track record on fighting Republican political attacks and urged him to better connect with anxious voters. Some allies pleaded for a new election-year strategy focused

on the economy.

"It's got to be better thought out," Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell said. "It's got to be more proactive." And, he said, Democrats must hit back just as hard as they are hit by Republicans.

Eight months before the first midterm elections of Obama's presidency, most Americans are frustrated with — even angered by — persistent unemployment and gridlock in Washington. Democrats fear voters will punish the party in power.

The titular head of his party, Obama has watched his own popularity drop over the past year. He will bear at least some responsibility for the outcome in November, and Democrats are looking to him for political fixes.

In interviews at the National Governors Association's

weekend meeting, several Democratic governors faulted the White House for losing the communications war against Republicans over what Obama has accomplished in his first year.

"We fought back only sporadically and pretty ineffectively," Rendell said, adding that "right out of the box, we lost the spin war" on the \$787 billion economic stimulus bill passed in 2009.

Several Democratic colleagues agreed, and lamented that voters thought Obama focused too much on overhauling the U.S. health care system. Others fretted that Obama may appear to be out of touch with the concerns of Americans.

"I think he's got more work to do on that," said Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick, an Obama friend and ally.



President Barack Obama, right, leans over to tap glasses with Gov. Tim Pawlenty, left, during a toast at the Governors Ball in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington Sunday.

Even as they raised concerns, Democratic governors insisted that the White House has started turning things around. "The stars are aligning," said Delaware Gov. Jack Markell.



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Pink Meet promotes cause

October was National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, but two Alabama women's athletics programs — along with many other athletics programs across the country — made sure last week that October isn't the only time of the year to "think pink."

In short: The Alabama athletic department's "pink" events were helpful benefits for breast cancer awareness.

The gymnastics team presented its sixth-annual Power of Pink Meet, which helped raise awareness and money for breast cancer research. By giving a check for \$100,000 to the DCH Breast Cancer Fund, the UA athletics department demonstrated its commitment to helping the fight against breast cancer in our community. Not only did the meet promote awareness of the problem and the need for research funding, it demonstrated that there are efforts right here in Tuscaloosa to fight this terrible disease.

Gymnastics coach Sarah Patterson created the Power of Pink initiative in 2004 and it has spread all across the sports world. Sports fans are not usually targeted by these kinds of campaigns, so any attempt to reach out to this demographic is very helpful. From Alabama gymnasts and basketball players to Major League Baseball players, athletes are spreading the word about the fight against breast cancer.

It may be just one gymnastics meet and one basketball game, but the money and awareness they raised made them far more than sporting events to those who have been — and will be — affected by breast cancer.

Open visitor list helps WH

Those who make a trip to the White House, whether they are lobbyists or a family on a tour, can no longer hide their visit. A new policy by the Obama administration publishes all White House visitor logs 90 days after the visit.

This is a welcome change from the secrecy of the Bush administration and a step toward a more open government.

President Barack Obama campaigned on a more transparent government and this new policy is one way he is keeping that promise. While it is just a small step, it allows the public to better keep tabs on the workings of our president and his government. There is no need to keep these logs secret because our president should have nothing to hide. Everyone who meets with him at the White House should be there to promote the interests of the American public, and the American public should know who is there.

Obama promised to keep lobbyists out of his administration. This is one way we can keep an eye on him.

If our government has nothing to hide from us, it won't matter if the visitor logs are public. This just allows the public to make sure nothing stays hidden. The only problem is that it took so long.

Our View is the consensus of The Crimson White's editorial board.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What's wrong with Iran's nukes?

By Edward Mostoller

Since last fall when it was announced that a secret nuclear facility had been discovered in the Iranian city of Qom, concerns about the nefarious plans of the Islamic regime have been running at a fever pitch. Unless they are stopped, the logic goes, Iran will develop nuclear weapons, give them to their proxy terrorist outfits in Palestine and Lebanon, set off an arms race throughout the Middle East and possibly destroy Israel, if not the world. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has taken advantage of a tour of the Persian Gulf to denounce the Iranian government and their recent claim toward advancing uranium enrichment, which they claim to be only for the medical use of isotopes.

First of all, there is no evidence that the Iranians are actually working towards a nuclear weapon. Supreme Leader Khamenei and President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad have both repeatedly stated that it would be against their religious beliefs to develop such a weapon. Remember that Iran is, after all, a theocracy. Although Iran has occasionally acted somewhat deceptively, they have complied with inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency. Iran is also a signatory of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Still, many seem convinced otherwise.

Even if Iran is seeking nukes, how can you blame them? They are repeatedly threatened with military strikes by Israeli and American politicians and are the second most powerful state in the region behind their primary rival, Israel, a nuclear power. These men are not raving religious zealots who would shoot off their missiles immediately upon acquiring them, thus inviting the rest of the world to literally obliterate them. Economic sanctions will also probably prove to be worthless. We can only hope American policy doesn't continue even further toward a military strike.

Edward Mostoller is a sophomore majoring in political science.



MCT Campus

Reversing our divided culture

By Ian Sams

On Sunday, The New York Times ran letters to the editor from retiring Sen. Evan Bayh, D-Ind., and former Sen. Lincoln Chafee, R-R.I., that decried the partisanship and inefficacy of the United States Senate.

In their letters, they laid out past grievances with their experiences in the chamber, highlighting countless problems that modern senators face in building consensus and affecting bipartisanship.

Bayh's piece, titled "Why I'm Leaving the Senate," listed problem after problem with the U.S. Senate, including improper campaign finance laws, a lack of social interaction between senators, the constancy of campaigning and increasing willingness to employ the filibuster.

Chafee's letter, titled "Goodbye to All That," laid out his desire for and belief in a strong third party for the American political system.

Chafee, now an independent running for governor of Rhode Island, highlighted Bayh's decision to depart from the U.S. Senate as yet another example of good leaders seeking an alternative. He alleges that Bayh, like many senators who came before him, are hungry for a better system and simply will not back out of the picture completely. In fact, Chafee seems to suggest Bayh may take a lead role in building a viable third party for the future.

Bayh, on the other hand, suggested ways in which he will act in his remaining time as a U.S. senator to reform Congress and its practices to ensure future senators a better experience. He pushed for legislation restrict-

ing corporate campaign expenditures — a direct response to the Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission — and for easier procedural methods for passing legislation.

In the end, both letters reflected a mood so pervasive our culture that it seeps all the way down to our local communities and, yes, even our campus.

A friend of mine constantly refers to it as the "us versus them mentality." In Washington, it's Democrats versus Republicans. In many communities, it's black versus white, Christian versus non-Christian, poor versus rich, insider versus outsider. Here at the University, the most prominent is greek versus independent.

What occurs in all of these dichotomies is a pervasive lack of respect, understanding and acceptance. In our culture, we've become content to splinter off into groups — a natural part of societal structure — that truthfully don't give a damn about the opinions or beliefs of other groups. We don't care what other people think, and we simply won't make an effort to understand them.

Modern media outlets feed this mentality. They present one side all the time, and they attract those already naturally bent to agree with them. No one pushes to raise the dialogue of our society, and everyone wants to have the biggest team.

But until we address that lack of respect, understanding, and acceptance at the grassroots, no progress will be made. Democrats and Republicans will become more bitterly divided. The racial and class-based gaps

will only grow. Nativist tones against outsiders will grow louder. Greeks and independents will continue to squabble over petty differences.

To gain respect and understanding, we have to empathize with the circumstances and beliefs of others. We have to understand what makes people be Republican or Democrat, greek or independent, poor or rich. We also have to respect what they are without a condescension that screams, "I am right on everything, and you are nothing but wrong!"

It starts, as I said, at the grassroots — by eating lunch with someone you don't know well, or asking someone from another socioeconomic class about their life, or reading books by people different than you. It takes us all letting our guard down and opening ourselves up to vulnerability and introspection.

If individuals in our communities take these steps, the culture will change. Perhaps one day our government will see it. Senators, congressmen, governors and the president may dine together, hear each other's stories, or end their petty bickering and constant campaign assaults.

No one disputes that Washington — as well as our society — is too divided. We all are quick to recognize a problem. But now, we all need to do something about it. It's time to quit waiting for others to make the first step.

Let's start from the bottom up to reverse our culture of division, and let's finally begin to respect, understand, and accept.

Ian Sams is a junior majoring in political science. His column

GUEST COLUMN

Exchange program helps schools

By Lisa Elizondo

The current immigration debate is largely based on legal status and job occupation, but the people who are mostly forgotten among the rancor are the children of immigrants.

Regardless of these children's citizenship status, they are often struggling in school. Having monolingual parents speaking Spanish in the home adds difficulty to many students' ability to hold their own among classmates.

Many opponents of immigration question the responsibility of the education system to provide resources like bilingual and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes necessary for these children to catch up. Some others cite extra expense for these programs as an argument against them.

However, there are cost effective options, one of which is a teacher exchange.

In 1997, schools in Dalton and Winfield, Ga., noticed the influx of Spanish-speaking immigrants taking jobs in their carpet factories, and decided to address the problem of underachieving children in their schools.

An agreement called the Monterrey Accord was established an exchange program between teachers in the Dalton and Winfield schools and teaching assistants from the

University of Monterrey in Mexico.

American teachers were allowed to learn Spanish through immersion and were given a crash-course in Mexican culture and educational practices, which helped them communicate more effectively and empathetically with their Spanish-speaking students and Mexican parents. The Mexican teaching assistants helped with bilingual education and ESL and provided a vital link between students, parents, and school administrators.

The program remained successful for 10 years, as school personnel were able to reach the bilingual students in a way that improved their educational experience.

Then it was cut in 2007 due to budget restrictions and lack of funding. The disappearance of this program, however, should not be discouraging to the notion of putting it into practice in Alabama.

This would be particularly helpful in Tuscaloosa County Schools, which are experiencing a recent influx of Latino immigrants. Responsible financial practices and creative budgeting could be used as methods to prolong a potentially successful program and make the most of dwindling education funds.

Finding local teachers who have comparable salaries to Mexican teaching assistants would help alleviate costs

because money to pay these new employees would already be in the budget. The same is true for the Mexican educational institutions, which would also have it in their budgets to reimburse an American teacher for participating in the exchange. If this exchange were equal, then the only significant expense would be travel, a cost that pales in comparison to a salary.

Even if salaries weren't all equal and additional funding was required, it would undoubtedly be worth the expense for Alabama schools to invest in their newest students who are quickly becoming a larger portion of the population.

As these students face challenges in their schoolwork due to a language barrier, their test scores follow a downward trend, an occurrence that robs Alabama of additional educational funding under current federal programs.

Investing the money to work with these students makes the schools better overall, and strengthens the case for additional funding to help bring Alabama out of the gutter of educational inadequacy. For this reason, these children cannot be allowed to fail and become another statistic in the miserable figures of the Alabama educational system.

Lisa Elizondo is a sophomore majoring in American studies.

Monday, February 22, 2010

Editor • Jonathan Reed

letters@cw.ua.edu

Page 4

YOUR VIEW

SHOULD THE U.S. SPEND MORE MONEY ON NUCLEAR POWER?

"Yeah, because it's a healthy energy source aside from the waste."

— **Kathleen Morrison**, freshman, business

"I think more money should be spent on education than power, and they should focus on wind and solar power if they want cleaner energy sources."

— **Jenae Stainer**, junior, social work

"Sure. It's a clean energy source."

— **Dave Brown**, junior, business

"No, because we're in a recession"

— **Anna Huggins**, freshman, chemical engineering

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Tide earns opening day win

By Spencer White
Assistant Sports Editor

Riding a strong pitching performance and four offensive bursts, the Alabama Crimson Tide baseball team began the Mitch Gaspard era with a dominant team win, cruising past the South Alabama Jaguars 12-4 Saturday afternoon in front of an opening day crowd of 4,848.

"It feels good to get started," Gaspard said. "We had a great day to play, had a good crowd, and I thought we played with good energy for nine innings."

Earning the first start of the 2010 season, sophomore Adam Morgan didn't disappoint, hurling his way to a six-inning, 11-strikeout performance. The fan mark was a career-high for Morgan, who threw had 55 of his 64 pitches called for strikes. "I just had a good day," Morgan said.

The Tide pitchers as a whole (Morgan, Jason Townsend and Brett Whitaker) surrendered a mere five hits and a single walk. The trio also recorded 15 strikeouts.

"I thought [Morgan] was outstanding," Gaspard said. "Then,

obviously, the bullpen came in and did a nice job as well."

Little seemed to go wrong for Morgan, even after a potentially disastrous fourth inning. First, Morgan's perfect game came to a halt after the top two South Alabama batters popped off back-to-back hits. A strikeout and a sacrifice gave the sophomore a chance to end the damage at a single run, but a poor pitch selection saw its way over the left field fence at the bat of Jaguar first baseman Tyler Vick and tied the contest at 3-3.

"I just sped his bat up," Morgan said. "I threw two fastballs away ... then I threw a breaking ball that just sped his bat up, and he got a hold of it."

No problem for the Tide, who rattled off a four-run counter punch in the bottom of the inning. Freshman right field Andrew Miller, a replacement for departed Major League draftee Kent Matthews, was the catalyst for the inning as he slammed a two-run single on a 3-2 pitch to get the rally started.

In total, the Tide would put together four separate innings of at least two runs, wearing out four South Alabama pitch-



Freshman right fielder Andrew Miller slides into third base during the Tide's 12-4 victory Saturday.

CW | John Michael Simpson

ers in the process, beginning with starter Jarrett Bailey, who took the loss for the Jaguars.

"We always talk about if they put up a run, we need to put one right back on," All-American second baseman Ross Wilson said. "That's what you've got to do to win."

Wilson did nothing to denounce his accolades, cobbling together a solid 3-for-5 performance that included an RBI and a run.

"Great weather, great crowd, the fans were into it," Wilson

said. "We just played well in all phases of the game."

Jake Smith carried the offensive high mark for the Tide, going 4-for-5 with two RBIs from the five spot. It was an especially triumphant start for Smith, who saw his season end prematurely last year with torn ankle ligaments in the Southeastern Conference tournament.

"It's real big to come out and start fast," Smith said. "Especially [after the injury] for me to get off to a good start to help the team win."

Tide rallies to Sunday win
In Sunday action, the Tide scored four runs in the final two innings to erase a two-run deficit and post 5-3 come-from-

behind over South Alabama in front of 3,273 fans at Stanky Field in Mobile to complete the two-game sweep.

"Today was really good to see on our side because we were facing their No. 1 guy and really had to compete and work for everything we got today," Alabama head coach Mitch Gaspard said.

Alabama returns to action next weekend at home against Illinois-Chicago. The series opener is set for Friday, Feb. 26 at 6:35 p.m. The two teams will close out the three-game series on Saturday, Feb. 27 with a double header at 12:05 p.m.

Information from UA Athletics was used in this report.

SPORTS

Page 5 • Monday, February 22, 2010

Editor • Jason Galloway
crimsonwhitesports@gmail.com

SPORTS this weekend

TUESDAY

• Softball vs. UAB: Birmingham, 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

• Men's basketball vs. Mississippi State: Starkville, Miss., 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

• Women's basketball vs. Mississippi State: 6 p.m.

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4 p.m. - 7 p.m. @ the Student Recreation Center

tuesday, feb. 23

scale of fortune & information
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. @ University Union (Ferguson Center)
3 p.m. - 6 p.m. @ the Student Recreation Center
fashion rocks...and so does my body! - fashion show
7 p.m. @ the Ferguson Theater

wednesday, feb. 24

polaroid photo day - what makes me beautiful?
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. @ University Union (Ferguson Center)
4 p.m. - 7 p.m. @ the Student Recreation Center

thursday, feb. 25

dietitian on the go
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. @ University Union (Ferguson Center)
scale of fortune & information
3 p.m. - 6 p.m. @ the Student Recreation Center
how to help a friend? - forum
"america the beautiful" movie showing
6 p.m. @ the Student Recreation Center (Student Activity Room)



monday - friday

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SPORTS in brief

Tide earns first road win in four years

From staff reports

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — The Alabama women's basketball team (11-16, 3-11) outscored Arkansas (12-15, 4-10) by 13 points in the second half to win 69-58 over the Razorbacks at Bud Walton Arena in Fayetteville, Ark., Sunday.

The victory marked the first Southeastern Conference road win for the Crimson Tide since Feb. 12, 2006, and first win in Fayetteville since Jan. 10, 2002.

"We got off to a good start in the second half and played really well," said head coach Wendell Hudson. "We made some baskets and Arkansas missed some shots giving us a chance to build a bit of a lead."

Senior Dedrea Magee led Alabama in scoring with 15 points in addition to nine rebounds and six assists, while junior Tierney Jenkins notched her 11th double-double of the season with 14 points and 14 rebounds. Sophomore Ericka Russell added 10 points to round out the three Tide players scoring in double figures.

Alabama shot 46.2 percent from the floor, including 50.0 percent in the second half. The Tide bench outscored the Razorback reserves 48-22, and Alabama collected 11 more rebounds in the contest leading the battle of the boards 45-34.

The Tide will play its final home game of the 2010 season when it hosts Mississippi State on Thursday, Feb. 25. Tipoff is slated for 6 p.m.

Tide suffers another late collapse

From staff reports

Sophomore forward JaMychal Green scored 16 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to notch his fifth double-double of the season and twelfth of his career, but the Alabama men's basketball team was unable to hold on to a 13-point second half lead, falling 76-70 to Georgia at Stegeman Coliseum in Athens, Ga., Saturday.

"We have an inability to defend and rebound down the stretch," Tide head coach Anthony Grant said. "It's a reoccurring thing. It cost us in this game just like it has in some other games this season."

Alabama was outrebounded 29-37, and Georgia connected on 29-of-53 of its shots from the field. The Bulldogs did not shoot often from beyond the arc, but were successful when they did, hitting 5-of-9 of its three point attempts.

"We need to control the things that we can control like blocking out and rebounding—the things that affect winning," Grant said. "When the game is on the line, it seems like we just don't do it."

With the loss, the Crimson Tide slips to 14-12 (4-8 SEC) on the season, while the Bulldogs improve to 12-13 (4-8 SEC). Alabama travels to Starkville, Miss. to face Mississippi State Wednesday night at 8 p.m.

Softball wins title at tournament

From staff reports

The No. 8 ranked Alabama softball team claimed the Hatter Invitational championship by defeating No. 14 Ohio State for the third time in the weekend by the score of 7-1 Sunday morning at Patricia Wilson Field in Deland, Fla.

The Crimson Tide has now won six straight games and earned five victories over the course of the tournament to improve to 7-2 on the year.

Alabama freshman Kayla Braud ignited the Tide at the plate all weekend by finishing her first road trip with a 3-for-3 performance, adding two runs and a stolen base. Over the weekend the rookie batted .615 (8-for-13) with four runs and five RBIs.

Junior Kelsi Dunne capped off her homecoming by earning the win on the strength of 4 2/3 innings of relief. Dunne allowed just one hit and struck out eight to improve to 3-2 on the season. Morgan started the game for the Tide and allowed one run on five hits in 2 1/3 innings.

Alabama will continue its road trip, heading to UAB on Tuesday. First pitch is slated for 6:30 p.m.

PINK

Continued from page 1

to finish her floor routine after falling on her second pass. Head coach Sarah Patterson said Price will be slowed down and her legs will be sore for a while, but that no serious injury occurred on the fall.

Price isn't the only Tide gymnast who got banged up Friday. Freshman Marissa Gutierrez fell short on a tumbling pass during pre-meet warm ups and tweaked her ankle. She still competed on beam, but was held out of her scheduled vault and floor exercise.

"I felt like we had the depth to go other places," Patterson said. "It was just a smart

move on our part not to push it tonight. When something like that happens, you try and have everybody ready so you can just adjust. Although you don't want an injury to happen, the next person has to be prepared."

Later this week, Alabama will travel to Lexington, Ky., to take on the Kentucky Wildcats Friday at 6 p.m.



Kassi Price hugs a fellow Tide gymnast at Friday's meet. Price suffered a nonserious injury during her floor routine. CW | Katie Bennett

Miller captures first gold, hockey stuns hosts

Jaime Aron and Alan Robinson
The Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Bode Miller looked at the camera, smiled and shrugged. Even he couldn't believe this.

Miller won the first gold medal of his Olympics career on Sunday, taking the super-combined with plenty of flair — roaring back from seventh after the downhill with a blazing slalom run.

That's not the easy way of doing it, but it was quite fitting for a guy who revels in being unconventional, like partying away his medals chances at the last Winter Olympics and skipping training last summer while pondering retirement.

With a medal of each color after three races, Miller is one of the feel-good stories of the Vancouver Games.

"The level I skied at is at the very top," he said. "It feels amazing."

Miller bumped the U.S. medal count to seven gold and 24 overall, easily leading all countries. One more medal



Gold medalist Bode Miller of the United States reacts during the flower ceremony of the Men's super-combined at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics in Whistler, British Columbia, Sunday.

and the Americans will match the 25 they won in 2006, their most at a Winter Olympics not held at home.

Once Miller took over the lead, he had to wait out six

challengers. The last was Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway, who finished a spot ahead of Miller in the super-G and the downhill.

When Svindal pulled up

midway through the race, that was it. Miller tied the record for most Alpine medals won by a man at a single Winter Olympics (first since Norwegian great Kjetil Andrea Aamodt in 1994) and his five career medals are second only to Aamodt among men's Alpine skiers.

"It's going to be hard for me to go keep doing this," said Miller, who could still have two events left. "This is incredibly emotionally exhausting."

Defending champion Ted Ligety jumped from 15th to fifth with the fastest time in the slalom. Unfortunately for him, there was only one slalom leg this time, after two in Turin.

In other events decided Sunday, Germany's Magdalena Neuner won her second gold medal of these games in biathlon and Switzerland's Michael Schmid won the Olympics debut of men's skicross, a cousin to the NASCAR-on-ice snowboarding race featuring four racers charging through a winding course filled with jumps.

US earns victory

Ryan Miller held off a flurry of shots to lead the Americans.

The United States pulled off its biggest Olympic hockey upset since the Miracle on Ice, stunning Canada 5-3 on Sunday to advance to the quarterfinals of an already mixed-up tournament.

Brian Rafalski scored two goals and set up another, and

One day short of the 30th anniversary of America's greatest hockey victory — the unfathomable win over the Soviet Union in Lake Placid — these underrated Americans were faster, more disciplined and more determined than Canada's all-stars.

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Miss UA Pageant contestants compete with talent, poise at Bama Theatre



Top Left: Nicole Jordan, Miss University of Alabama 2009, takes her farewell walk. **Above:** Contestants of Miss UA wait for the winner to be announced. **Below:** Shawntae Johnson reads an original monologue for her talent. CW | Rachel Hill

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MISS UA

Continued from page 1

America pageant.

The runners up received prizes ranging from \$100 to \$400. The fourth runner-up was Kerr, the third runner-up was Ledbetter, the second-runner

up was Wieronski and the first runner-up was Meissner.

Street also won the "Spirit of Alabama" award. Meissner won the swimsuit competition while Wieronski won the talent competition.

Jacqueline Shealy, a senior majoring in public relations, said the pageant is a good expe-

rience in general.

"Girls should participate because it really puts UA on the map," Shealy said. "It's just something great to do. I think it will help their future in whatever they want to do in life. So being able to have this great experience to back them up is great."

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Scorsese meets own challenge with 'Island'

By Forrest Phillips
Staff Writer

Make no mistake about it. There's some serious ambition to be found lurking behind the genre thrills of director Martin Scorsese's latest film, "Shutter Island."

This is how a thriller should be made. "Shutter Island" builds its tension with implication rather than action, crafting a pervasive sense of anxiety that gains in prominence as the movie's presented reality slowly decays.

But there's also a sense of joy to be found in the movie, as it is essentially a celebration of filmmaking — specifically American filmmaking. Scorsese is as much a film historian as he is a filmmaker, and he seems more than happy to put his knowledge to use in "Shutter Island." The movie conjures up the ghosts of Hollywood past, alluding to both the canonical (Hitchcock) and the marginalized (Val Lewton, anyone?).

It's exhilarating to watch Scorsese cite influences so effortlessly. Obvious Hitchcockian overtones aside, the psychological effect of "Shutter Island" seems drawn from the low-budget, atmospheric horror-flicks churned out by RKO Studios in the 1940s & '50s.

Scorsese also pumps "Shutter Island" with film noir style. The heroes slog around in long trench coats and wide fedoras, carrying with them questionable motives and uncertain pasts.

Occasionally, Scorsese evokes the visual flourish of '50s Technicolor wizards like Nicholas Ray or Douglas Sirk. Splashing color with expressionistic intention, Scorsese counters the film's

dark themes with strikingly vibrant hues (the tropical-themed necktie worn by Leonardo DiCaprio's character stands as the best example of this technique, as it's an eye-catching contradiction to the film's overriding sense of hopelessness).

However, these references do more than provide an outlet for cinematic reverence. There's also a more substantial parallel being established between "Shutter Island" and the classic genre films it invokes. Scorsese is reframing his movie with each allusion, alerting his audience that he intends to challenge himself as a filmmaker.

After 40 years behind the camera, Scorsese has become a directing authority for a generation, and it's easy to forget that he holds his own set of filmmaking idols. With "Shutter Island," Scorsese tries to place himself within the working conditions of the Studio Era directors he most admires: classical Hollywood craftsmen like John Ford, Nicholas Ray and Alfred Hitchcock, professionals who managed to imbue intensely personal ideas, techniques and emotions into otherwise simplistic, studio-mandated material.

"Shutter Island" offers a similar test for Scorsese, as he attempts to put an individualized stamp on a film underwritten by genre conventions. He's done this sort of work before — see "New York, New York" (a musical), "Casino" (an archetypal gangster-picture), or "Cape Fear" (a literal genre-film remake) — but "Shutter Island" is the most ambitious of these undertakings.

So, does he succeed? Frankly, it's hard to say.

'SHUTTER ISLAND'

Runtime: 138 minutes

MPAA rating: R

Release date: February

CW critic's rating:



Bottom line: "Whether 'Shutter Island' is a subtle masterpiece or just a well-made thriller is uncertain—but the film is undeniably enjoyable."

Scorsese's technical skills certainly accounted for. We get the aggressive camera, the visceral editing and the labored compositions.

All of Scorsese's trademark motifs are also there — guilt, insecurity, paranoia and alienation — but they feel too overwrought and direct, ultimately seeming more like a byproduct of the film's plot and less like an underlying directorial signature. As a result, "Shutter Island" feels more satisfying as a mere thriller than as an auteur exercise.

But I could be wrong. After all, who noticed Hitchcock's subversive edge or Ford's weathered cynicism upon their respective films' immediate releases? It's quite possible that "Shutter Island" holds an equal potential for evolving significance—and only time will reveal it.

Meanwhile, enjoy "Shutter Island" for what it unquestionably is—a first-rate thriller.



Above: Leonardo DiCaprio and Mark Ruffalo co-star in Martin Scorsese's "Shutter Island." Below: Ben Kingsley plays psychiatrist Dr. Cawley. Photos from rottentomatoes.com



University presents 'Saint Joan'

History-filled performance begins Tuesday

By Kyerra Dexter

UA Theatre and Dance will bring history to life with the production of George Bernard Shaw's play "Saint Joan."

According to UA Theatre and Dance Web site, Shaw's play is a dramatization of Joan of Arc's life and it draws on the substantial records of her trial, taking the position that her accusers acted in good faith according to their beliefs.

"[Shaw] believed that the characterization of Joan by most writers is romanticized to make her accusers come off as completely unscrupulous villains, yet he takes no position, himself, on whether the sentence was just or otherwise," the site said. "Caught between the forces of the Church and the Law, Joan is the personification of the tragic heroine."

The director of "Saint Joan" is Seth Panitch, assistant professor of acting and head of the MFA and Undergraduate Acting programs. Alexandra

"You get to experience theater at its finest and you will leave feeling satisfied."
— Alexandra Ficken

Ficken, a junior majoring in musical theater and dance, is the lead role of Joan.

Ficken said she cut her waist-length blonde hair for her character. She also said she enjoyed being part of a classic play that gives audiences more than one historical perspective.

"You get to see both sides of the story," Ficken said. "You get to experience theater at its finest and you will leave feeling satisfied."

First-year MFA acting graduate Puyton Connelly will play King Charles VII. Connelly said theater can be more magical than movies, and he said Joan's characterization makes the play interesting for the audience.

"The play makes Joan a human being without robbing her of being a saint," Connelly said. One reason why he came to UA was because of the director.

"His attitude, passion, and knowledge was appealing,"

Connelly said. "Working on the play was completely demanding but rewarding, and we are still shaping it."

Also in the cast as the Chaplin opposing Joan is Timothy Rhoades, another first year MFA acting graduate. Rhoades said the play

solid. "It's a great piece of literature. There aren't any weak links."

Tickets are \$17 for adults, \$15 for UA faculty and staff and senior citizens, and tickets for students and children are \$12. The play will be held on the UA campus at the Gallaway Theatre in Rowand-Johnson Hall.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday to Saturday, with an additional show time at 2 p.m. on Saturday. The final show is on Sunday at 2 p.m.

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Today's Horoscope

Today's birthday (2/22/10). Family matters come to the forefront his year. You're certainly capable of expressing your beliefs. Now it's time to listen and find out what other people are feeling. Don't speculate. Get them to talk about problems so you can offer help or moral support.
 To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.
Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Yesterday's meditation can now be shared with a partner or close friend. You see how to change your work habits to achieve more without additional effort.
Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 6 -- If you don't adapt, you could feel trapped at work. Practical ideas take over, so save an inspired plan for later, after the dust has settled. Go with the flow.
Gemini (May 21-June 21) -- Today is a 6 -- You'll get more done if you work in seclusion today. A team player suggests a change that you have to ponder before saying yes. Choose balance over glitz.
Cancer (June 22-July 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Change your tune but make sure you were on key to begin with. Imagination removes limitations and extends boundaries.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Who has control over your decisions? This is no idle question. If you feel out of control, try a tiny adjustment. It may be as simple as an attitude shift.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- You don't face the War of the Worlds. The situation calls for adaptation, not annihilation. Going around the bush is easier than charging through it.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Work and play flow remarkably well today. You're saying exactly the right words, with the correct logic and colorful flair. But don't hog all the glory.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Don't plan on getting your way with everyone. A female challenges your assumptions. State your case clearly and offer several alternatives.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 5 -- You may want to ease into work but instead find yourself in deep water. Today's life preserver is made of logic and reason.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- You begin the day with an image of your goal. Creative energy takes you a long way, but you also need to get the feel for the material you're using.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- Check the schedule early. Verify appointments. A private meeting with an older person points you in the right financial direction.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Plan on taking baby steps today as the only way to make forward progress. Challenges come in the form of private conversation. Maintain confidentiality at all costs.

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ACROSS

- Hit bottom?
- Irritate
- Excessive elbow-benders
- Put down
- Sandy color
- World's largest furniture retailer
- Fibs
- Author LeShan
- "Bad" cholesterol letters
- Scrooge creator
- The first film it aired was "Gone with the Wind"
- Inauguration Day events
- Seductive peepers
- Barnyard sound
- A car with this is often easier to resell
- What quibblers split
- Asian on the Enterprise bridge
- Deadens
- Spanish hand
- Seagoing mil. training group
- Montgomery native
- His, to Henri
- Like large cereal boxes
- Online suffix with Net
- Some dashes
- Like test papers awaiting grading
- chi ch'uan
- Swell, clangly
- 1963 Elvis hit with the lyrics "You look like an angel ... but I got wise"
- Leave out
- Signaled backstage, perhaps
- "The Da Vinci Code" star
- Shake, as a police tail
- TV's tiny Taylor
- Typical O. Henry ending

DOWN

- Black Friday store event
- Term paper abbr.
- Excel input
- Part of i.e.
- Easily heard herd leader
- Feeble cry
- German "I"
- "Dragnet" sergeant
- Useless
- Jockey's wear
- Steinbeck migrant
- Suffix with four, six, seven and nine
- Say freshly with the lyrics "You look like an angel ... but I got wise"
- Dantes, the Count of Monte Cristo
- PayPal "currency"
- Brook fish
- On point
- Cap'n's subordinates
- Make used (to)
- Apollo's birthplace, in Greek myth
- culpa
- Home of the Hurricanes
- Cuban-born TV producer
- United
- Pile up
- Mideast political gp.
- No different from, with "the"
- De Beers founder Rhodes
- When "They Drive," in a 1940 Raft/Bogart film
- Cat of many colors
- Demand from a door pounder
- Vindictiveness
- Superstar
- Pixar clownfish
- Alamo competitor
- Ocean motion
- Done, to Dumas
- Questions
- "_ in Show"
- gratia: by the grace of God
- Mich.-based labor group

By Ken Bessette

OCTO US2-18 (c) 2005, Doug Gardner - Patent Pending

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
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47				48					49			
50				51					52			
53				54					55			
56				57					58			
59				60					61			
62				63					64			
65				66					67			

Place the numbers 1 to 8 in each of the octagons such that the numbers are not repeated in any octagon, row, column, or diagonal. The sums of the minor diagonals (diagonals that contain either four or six numbers) are provided at the beginning and end of each minor diagonal. The sum of the four numbers that border a diamond are provided in that diamond. The numbers that border diamonds do not have to be unique.

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Gaiman offers writing advice to students

By Steven Nalley
Arts and Entertainment Editor

After Thursday's event at the Bama Theatre, a few students got another chance to hear Neil Gaiman read and answer questions about writing one last time before the author of "American Gods," "Coraline" and other best-sellers left Alabama.

Creative Campus held a session with Gaiman for master's of fine arts students in creative writing on Friday at Smith Hall.

The session was not limited exclusively to MFA students or to students studying creative writing. Claire Norell, a senior majoring in anthropology, attended the session. Norell said it was a privilege to see Gaiman in a more intimate setting than the Bama Theatre.

"It's one of those things where I can't believe I'm this close," Norell said after the event. "It was awesome. He's

been one of my literary heroes for years."

Gaiman read from the seventh chapter of his 2009 Newberry Medal-winning book, "The Graveyard Book." He said he got the idea when he was 25 years old when he took his son to a graveyard, where he thought it would be safer for him to ride his tricycle.

"I thought, 'He looks absolutely at home now,'" Gaiman said. "I thought, 'I could do a book about a kid who grows up in a graveyard.' It was the easiest, simplest idea for a book I'd ever had, but I said, 'No. This is a better idea, and I'm a writer. I'll get better, and then I'll get back to this.'"

Gaiman gave students advice on how to improve their writing. He said it helped him to write the first drafts of his stories by hand because having to type the draft afterward forces him to look at the draft again and makes him want to cut nonessential things out.

"Making more work for yourself, you learn some economy," Gaiman said. "I tell myself that I should write as if I'm paying them [readers] by the word."

Gaiman referred to a lecture he gave at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he explained the difference between genre fiction and real literature. He said genre fiction is like hardcore pornography and musicals in that all three have certain things people expect from them, whether it's sex, music or clichéd tropes, and the plot exists only to keep these expected events from happening nonstop.



CW | Steven Nalley

After Neil Gaiman's MFA session, students in attendance flock to have their copies of Gaiman's work signed by the author.

"That's sort of how you can tell whether it's genre, whether it's a cowboy novel or a novel with cowboys," Gaiman said.

Leigh Hunnicutt, a senior majoring in Spanish, said she appreciated the advice Gaiman gave, especially when he said writers should finish their unfinished novels.

"That's half the hard drive on my computer right there, is unfinished novels," Hunnicutt said. "I thought it was amazing that he was able to come here."

Alexis Clark, coordinator with Creative Campus, said the session was one part of the overall success of Gaiman's visit to Alabama.

"I feel like the two days'

worth of events in the book of Creative Campus success level is at the top of what we've done," Clark said. "It emphasized collaborative partnerships because none of this would have been possible with just us, and it brought the best and brightest in a field to the best and brightest in Alabama."

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